



PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 040894-7484

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Kenji KOBAYASHI	)	Confirmation No.: 3932
	)	
Application No.: 10/588,953	)	Group Art Unit: 3677
	)	
Filed: June 1, 2007	)	Examiner: Lavinder, Jack W.
	)	
For: BINDING PIECE AND BINDING	)	
APPARATUS	)	

Commissioner of Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

In a Restriction Requirement dated March 24, 2009, the period for response to which extends through April 24, 2009, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between Group I (claims 1-8) drawn to a binding piece connecting body, Group II (claims 9-11) drawn to a binding piece, and Group III (claims 12-18) drawn to an apparatus for closing a bag with a binding piece.

Applicant hereby elects Group I (claims 1-8) without traverse. Applicant respectfully requests formal examination of this application.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under

37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

**MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP**

By: 

David E. Connor

Reg. No. 59,868

Dated: April 24, 2009

**CUSTOMER NO. 009629**

**MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP**

1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, D.C. 20004

Tel.: (202) 739-3000

Fax: (202) 739-3001